

THE GLOBE-REPUBLICAN.

The FORD CO. GLOBE, Established 1877. (Consolidated, 1886.)
The FORD CO. REPUBLICAN, " 1886.

DODGE CITY, KANSAS, THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1903.

TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR, VOL. XXVI, NO. 34.

CYCLONES OF LAST WEEK.

Four or Five Twisters Within
Two Days Time.

MUCH DAMAGE WAS DONE.

Review of the Course of the
Cyclones and the Damage
Done by Them.

Ford County was given more than its proportion of the cyclones of last week. People of this county have in the past felt reasonably secure from any danger in this line. Last week however to this county fell the undestorable lot of being the storm center. On Thursday afternoon one twister passed a few miles west of town and at the same time another was tearing across country a few miles east of town.

On Friday afternoon another cyclone crossed the county, passing a few miles west of Dodge City. When first noticed it was eight or nine miles southwest of town and was headed directly this way. A freak of the storm in turning to follow a draw threw its course so that Dodge City was missed by six or seven miles. After passing around to the north of town the funnel-shaped cloud raised from the earth. Later it divided and formed two twisters; some say there were three.

From all of these storms only one death resulted, and although several houses and barns were demolished, some stock killed and crops in the path of the storm were injured, the paths of all of these cyclones were across sparsely settled portions of the county. In every case the deviation of a few miles would have caused much greater destruction. A few people have been left nearly destitute by their loss of property sustained and money is being raised in Dodge City for their assistance.

The beginning of Friday evening's storm could be seen from town to the southwest. The work of the cyclone in that quarter is described by the GLOBE-REPUBLICAN's Fairview correspondent as appears below.

Destruction of Friday's Storm.

The tornado of Friday started near Geo. Miller's on the west line of Ford and five miles north of the south line.

Peter Heineman was first in the tornado's course. His house and other buildings were destroyed and Mrs. Heineman was slightly bruised. Their boy was caught in the whirl and carried about fifty yards and badly bruised about his head. Mr. Heineman claims he was uninjured by clinging to a fence post.

William Rickman's barn and wind mill were demolished.

J. H. Gallatin's sod house was partially destroyed and Mrs. Gallatin injured, though not seriously.

Charles Pfeiffer's home was destroyed.

Hays Bealmear's house was partially unroofed and his granary destroyed. Mr. Bealmear had more than twenty sacks of flour stored in his granary and when found, after the tornado had passed, the whole of it was found floating in his reservoir.

Course Changed by Draw.

From Bealmear's the cyclone made a direct course for J. D. Brown's buildings. On the west side of the Brown farm there is a draw and when the cyclone struck it the course was turned, the twister following the draw. The mighty force struck five horses owned by

E. J. Brown and injured four so seriously that he had them shot. One of his horses was found wrapped in barb wire as if it had been wound around by machinery. The sight of the poor brute was horrible. The house and barn and some other buildings were uninjured while some were destroyed, and piled against a hedge fence.

Complete Destruction at Shain's.

The terrible force of the tornado followed the draw in a northeasterly direction and struck C. M. Shain's property. His home was gone in an instant. A sod addition to the house was a mass of ruin, which came near causing the death of Mrs. Shain. All who were home went into the cave save Mrs. Shain who refused to leave and remained alone in the house. Mr. Shain was at Hays Bealmear's during the terrible ordeal and when all was over hurried to where his home had been. He found all safe except his wife. She was missing. Ed. Brown was soon on the ground and located her under a huge pile of sod. Not less than a ton of sod was removed to rescue her. She was buried under the debris not less than three-quarters of an hour. At first it was thought her injuries would prove fatal. She appears now to be recovering and the family with her is with J. D. Brown and family who are happy their home was spared, and glad to give Mr. Shain's family a home. If it were not for the sod pile where the house stood, there would be nothing to tell that Mr. Shain ever had a house, barn, granaries, and other buildings on the farm. The destruction was complete.

Freaks of the Storm.

There were many peculiar freaks of the storm. Mr. Shain had a large steel field roller, made in three parts. One part is on Nio Mayrath's farm at least two miles from where it was lifted from the ground, flattened out of all former shape. Part of an iron bedstead was found a long distance away with a hundred pounds of barb wire coiled tightly around it. A harness was found all tied into knots. A dog was carried into the air and killed by flying missiles. His wagons, all that is left of them, are in pieces and some of the hubs had the spokes pulled from their sockets, and some of the tires have been found. There is absolutely nothing left about the place. This is the fifth time Mr. Shain has suffered complete loss. Twice by fire. Twice by ice and flood, and now by this tornado. Coming in his old age, the ordeal is a severe one.

At Mayrath's Place.

At Nio Mayrath's place is the next scene of destruction that tells of the futility of man to build against the power of the tornado. Nine buildings are in ruin—the work of years, destroyed in a moment. Trees were torn from the ground within a few feet of his new house but by a freak movement of the tornado his house was left. Buildings on all sides were demolished to pieces small enough for kindling wood. Farming implements, wagons, buggies were carried up in the circling storm. His orchard the product of years careful work is a sight that beggars description; where fine fruit trees stood is now a scene of destruction. The debris of his many buildings scattered among the ruin of fruit trees is a sight the sight-seer will never forget. Their many friends rejoice with them that their home and lives were spared.

W. E. Lighter, the next to suffer damage, can be heartily congratulated that his home, too, was spared. The result was the ruin of his granary and farm implements. Mr. Lighter's farm was the last one that suffered loss south of the Arkansas river. The terror of the tornado will never be forgotten by those along its path of ruin.

Storm Further North.

In the north part of the county the storm formed again. Brakey's stone house was hurled into pieces. Mr. Clemons, of Dodge City, was in that vicinity during the time and was close upon the edge of the storm. His buggy was upset and his team was thrown about until they were not able to travel for several days. Mr. Clemons was severely bruised but escaped any serious damage. He reports that a small frame house belonging to Kissel was carried over a mile, and the Kissel school house was practically destroyed. A part of the Slavens house was blown away. It was reported here the day following that DeVoe's house was taken away. Mr. Clemons says that he saw a cow carried fifty feet high. It is reported that a girl by name of Pierson was killed across the line in Hodgman.

Thursday Evening's Storm.

There is little damage reported from the twister which passed west of Dodge City on Thursday evening. The cyclone to the east was a destructive one. This storm made its first appearance near the Padgett place where crops were injured to a considerable extent. At Victor Carson's lower ranch the house was completely ruined. Mr. Carson and two or three others were there at the time. They made a run and got far enough away to miss the main force of the storm

and were uninjured. A dog that was in the house was seen high in the air wriggling his legs as though swimming. The canine returned home uninjured the next day.

On the place where J. H. Treblossek lives a clean sweep was made but no lives were lost.

At the Gleason place, at the northeast corner of the county, the house was blown away. Mable Tuttle, who boarded at Gleason's and was with the family in the house when the storm struck, was carried some distance, thrown against a stone wall and instantly killed. The members of the Gleason family escaped with very severe bruises and scratches.

Weather Bureau Report.

The review of the weather of the past week by Mr. E. D. Emigh, observer in charge of the Dodge City office will be of general interest from its bearing upon the above-mentioned storms. The report says:

"There is no parallel in our 29 year record for the cyclonic activity of Thursday and Friday, two days fraught with peril and destruction never before experienced to so great an extent in this region since the advent of civilized man. To further accentuate the infrequency of tornadoes in this section, we need but cite the fact that only two had been observed within fifteen miles of Dodge City since the establishment of this station in 1874.

Kansas was well east of the center of a cyclone over southern Utah Wednesday morning, and the expenditure of energy in this locality was confined to a brief but terrific wind, which came as a thunder squall with light rain and hail Wednesday evening. In seventeen minutes seventeen miles of wind were recorded, and a maximum velocity of 72 miles per hour from the south occurred. By Thursday morning the center of the low pressure area had advanced to Cheyenne, Wyoming; had greatly increased in intensity, and covered a vast area of country extending from the Pacific ocean to the Missouri river and from Mexico far into Canada. On this date a small tornado left a long trail of destruction east of Dodge City, while another passed west of the city in plain view. Two thunderstorms passed over this station. The cyclone was somewhat narrower Friday morning, when it had further intensified and was central in North Dakota. Early in the afternoon clouds were observed in the south, and by 2:30 the sky presented an awe-inspiring aspect. Immense masses of smoky green clouds rolled and tossed in chaotic confusion, while a low rumble gave warning of their terrible possibilities. After a moderate rain, hail and thunder storm had been in operation for some time, large hail stones of irregular shapes began to fall almost simultaneously with the appearance of a large tornado southwest of the city with Dodge City directly in its path. Changing its course, however, it deflected toward the north and passed several miles west of the city. From the time of its appearance at 3:05, for about five minutes the storm worked with terrible power and produced a loud roaring sound; but at 3:10 entirely dissipated, to reappear and disappear at irregular intervals in its northerly progress in a greatly modified form. When first seen it was a great black pillar; after its sudden exhaustion of energy its reappearance was in the form of a narrow and irregular streak, black at first but white afterward when the sun seemed to gain access to it.

The total precipitation of the week was 1.31 inches, 0.51 of an inch above normal. Saturday, Sunday and Monday had no rainfall. The average temperature was slightly above normal. High wind prevailed, except on Saturday."

FIREMAN'S TOURNAMENT.

Dodge City Company will hold one if they can Secure Help Enough.

The efficiency and usefulness of a volunteer fire company depends entirely upon the interest taken by its members in the organization, and anything that tends to awaken and stimulate this interest is of incalculable benefit to the organization. Underwriters and property owners are usually alive to this fact and by liberal contributions to firemen's tournaments keep alive a spirit of friendly rivalry that holds the organization together and keeps them alive and wide awake to all those requirements that go to make an ideal fireman.

Our boys contemplate giving a hose tournament in the city on the second week in August, but in order to do this in a creditable manner they will have to have the hearty co-operation of the citizens. They have received assurances from our neighboring towns that there will be enough contestants for the various prizes to make the meet a success in point of attendance. Next week they will solicit subscriptions to a fund that is necessary to carry out successfully the contemplated tournament. In setting down the amount of your subscriptions keep in mind the fact that our fire

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department is a volunteer organization without one cent of pay for the hazardous duties they are called upon to perform and that they are a public necessity. You can stimulate and encourage them by a liberal subscription,—not as a donation—but as an investment, and testimonial to their past heroic services and present efficiency.

WESLEY FRANK MISSING.

Distracted Parents Searching for Twelve-year-old Son.

John Frank, who lives near Howell, began a search for a missing son last Saturday evening and up to Tuesday noon of this week had found no trace of him. The boy, Wesley Frank, is twelve years old. Last Saturday the parents were in Dodge City and the boy was working at home. When they returned home in the evening the boy was gone and a note written by him was found in the house, telling them good bye.

The parents do not know of any cause for the boy leaving and have not the slightest idea which way he has gone. It is said that strangers traveling in a covered wagon camped for dinner near the Frank home, and it is possible that they took the boy with them.

CYCLONE ENTERTAINMENT.

Musical Entertainment at Rink for Benefit of Cyclone Sufferers.

Everybody will be at the rink next Wednesday evening. A grand musical entertainment will be given and all of the proceeds will go to those who lost heavily by the recent storm.

The rink has been donated by Dr. McCarty, the lights will not be charged for, Beeson's orchestra and the Dodge City band have tendered their services free, and the other musical talent of the city will be picked from, to furnish an excellent entertainment. Refreshments will be served by the ladies of the Civic Improvement league.

This entertainment is something which everybody should take interest in and the rink should be packed. Gentlemen will be charged 50 cents admission. Ladies free.

Bert Estinger will go to Newton tomorrow for a visit of a week or two.

FORD COUNTY FAIR.

Many Inquiries Coming in Regarding the Coming Meeting.

Secretary Gallagher, of the Ford County Fair and Driving Park Association is receiving many letters from people who expect to attend the fair here, and from those who want to buy privileges. Several hundred dollars worth of privileges have already been requested. The champion lady rider and the ostrich race man want the job of appearing as star attractions. The prospects for a grand racing meet are very good, and from now on the association will have plenty to do to arrange plans for the proposed big meeting.

There is only one drawback which cannot be avoided. The fair dates assigned this county by the association are most too early for an agricultural exhibit and that will probably be postponed until next year. The opportunity is good to make a big success of all other features if the proper enthusiasm is shown by the association and the people of the county.

REUNION DATE FIXED.

Will be Held the First Week of September.

The Southwest Veteran's Association reunion will be held in the City park here the first week in September. Secretary Arment has received a letter from President Sweeney that the dates for the Eleventh Annual Reunion has been set for September 1, 2, 3 and 4. He also writes that he has secured 200 tents from the State to be used here during the week. A number of large tents have been rented from a Kansas City house.

After two very successful reunions the next one has every promise of outclassing all others either here or elsewhere. There will be a larger and more distinguished array of speakers here than at any time in the history of our city. Look out for the big bills.

The social and musical held at the rink last Saturday afternoon and evening for the benefit of the kindergarten was quite a success. The ladies cleared about \$25, which will be used to purchase materials for the children to work with.

Notice.

Scaled bids will be received by the City clerk for the construction of such sidewalks as the city may build under the provision of ordinance No. 204. Said bids shall be for the furnishing of material and the construction thereof of 1st, 2nd 3rd & 4th class sidewalks, each per linear foot for vitrified sidewalk brick, stone, paving cement. The time for receiving such bids shall remain open up to 4 p. m. June 3rd. The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

S. GALLAGHER, Jr.
Clerk.

Dr. and Mrs. C. E. McCarty, who have been visiting in New Orleans and Cuba are expected home soon.

The sad news of the critical illness of Miss Mabel Webb was received ere this week. She has typhoid fever and her condition is said to be very dangerous.

The program at the opera house on Decoration day will begin at 1:30 in the afternoon. The address will be delivered by State Senator F. D. Smith of Kinsley.

Pettijohn, one of the horses owned by Sam Stubbs, won first money again in a race at St. Louis, yesterday. This horse can beat a slot machine taking in money.

The entertainment at the rink next Wednesday evening will be a county event. It is given for the benefit of the cyclone sufferers. Why can not Speareville, Bucklin and Ford each send crowd?

The dinner, supper and apron sale given by the Civic Improvement League last Tuesday was well patronized. Good meals were served and the apron booth was quite a popular place with the ladies. The High School orchestra furnished music in the evening, and the whole affair was a financial as well as social success.

The High school commencement exercises will be held tomorrow, Friday evening, at Gluck's opera house. The program while not a long one will be very interesting. The address to the class will be made by Mr. A. B. Reeves, and it is safe to predict that it will be especially good. There will be two orations one by Miss Sturgeon and one by Miss Mohler. Beeson's orchestra will furnish the music.

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